MASTRONARDI Appl. No. 09/888,540 April 25, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance

of this application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 14, 16, and 17 have

been amended, claims 15 and 20 have been cancelled, and claims 21-25 have been added. Thus,

claims 14, 16-19, and 21-25 are pending for further examination.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that claims 14 and 16-20 would be

allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the double-patenting rejections set forth in the

Office Action. In response, Applicant has amended claims 14, 16, and 17 so as to obviate the

statutory double-patenting rejection of claims 14, 16, and 17. Additionally, these amendments

and the cancellation of claim 20 are believed to obviate the nonstatutory obviousness-type

double-patenting rejection of claims 18-20. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the

double-patenting rejections have been obviated.

New claims 21-25 recite similar features to those recited in claims 14 and 16-19. Thus,

new claims 21-25 should be allowable for substantially the same reasons as claims 14 and 16-19.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejections and

allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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